GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – Revenue Department –Madanapalli Division – Sri M.S.Murali, former RDO, Madanapalli and presently working as SDC(Legal Cell), Tirupati (Now Under suspension) – Negligence in discharging his duties - Departmental Proceedings under Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991 – Articles of charge – Issued.

REVENUE (VIGILANCE-I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 811 **Dated: 14-11-2024**
Read:

G.O.Ms.No.125, Revenue (Vig.I) Dept., Dt.30.07.2024

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ORDER:

It is proposed to hold an enquiry against Sri M.S.Murali, former RDO, Madanapalli and presently working as SDC(Legal Cell), Tirupati (NowUnder suspension) in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehavior in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of article of charge (Annexure – I). A list of documents by which and a list of witnesses by whom, the article of charge is proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexure–II & III).

3. Sri M.S.Murali, former RDO, Madanapalle and presently working as SDC (Legal Cell), Tirupati (NowUnder suspension) is directed to submit his written statement of defense within 10 (ten) days of the receipt of this order.

4. Sri M.S.Murali, former RDO, Madanapalli and presently working as SDC(Legal Cell), Tirupati (NowUnder suspension) is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of that article of charge as is not admitted. He should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each article of charge.

5. Sri M.S.Murali, former RDO, Madanapalli and presently working as SDC(Legal Cell), Tirupati (NowUnder suspension) is further informed that if he does not submit his written statement of defense on or before the date specified in para-3 above, further action will be processed based on the material available.

6. Attention of Sri M.S.Murali, former RDO, Madanapalli and presently working as SDC(Legal Cell), Tirupati (NowUnder suspension) is invited to Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, under which no Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interests in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt with in these proceedings, it will be presumed that Sri

M.S.Murali, former RDO, Madanapalli and presently working as SDC(Legal Cell), Tirupati (NowUnder suspension) is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at his instance and action will be taken against him for violation of Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

7. The receipt of the Order be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

R.P.SISODIA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(LANDS, DM, R&S)

To

Sri M.S.Murali, former RDO, Madanapalli and presently working as SDC (Legal Cell), Tirupati **(**NowUnder suspension). (Through the Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P., Mangalagiri for service and to return the served copy with dated acknowledgement immediately (By RPAD))

The Chief Commissioner of Land Administration, A.P., Mangalagiri

The District Collector, Annamayya/Tiruapati District.

The PS to Special CS to Government (lands), Revenue Department

SF/SC.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE – I

DRAFT ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI M.S.MURALI, FORMER RDO, MADANAPALLI AND PRESENTLY WORKING AS SDC(LEGAL CELL), TIRUPATI (NOWUNDER SUSPENSION).

Article of Charge-I:-Sri M.S.Murali while working as Revenue Divisional Officer, Madanapalli, though he knew the irregularities in the land related files i.e., de-notifying lands under Section 22A(1) and converting D-Patta lands to freehold status..etc., he wilfully encouraged his subordinates to circulate said files and approved said files irregularly by accepting bribes, and diverted his higher officials intentionally and being a responsible government revenue officer he failed to prevent the irregularities in land related matters and not accountable in his duty and caused much inconvenience to the District Administration as well as defaming in public.

Thus, Sri M.S.Murali, former RDO, Madanapalli and presently working as SDC (Legal Cell), Tirupati **(**NowUnder suspension) violated rules 3(1), 3(2) & 6 of A.P.C.S.Conduct Rules, 1964.

Hence, the charge.

Article of Charge-II:-Sri M.S.Murali while working as Revenue Divisional Officer, Madanapalli, though he is well aware of the facts and regulations regarding land issues, he intentionally met with private persons to discuss about official and confidential matters. Subsequently, he issued directions to his subordinates i.e., office staff, Tahsildars to alter note files/ reports to facilitate the 22A de-notification…etc. He also involved in creating fabricated records and forging official records and diverted huge amount of land under 22(A), making D-Patta lands freeholds and regularizing dotted lands in favour of private persons by violating established rules. One forged file of Tahsildar, Madanapalle with file ref. No. A/20/2024 dated 29.01.2024 was identified during the verification, which shows gross negligence in his legitimate duties and being a responsible government revenue officer he failed to prevent the irregularities in land related matters in his jurisdiction and not at all accountable in his duty.

Thus, Sri M.S.Murali, former RDO, Madanapalli and presently working as SDC (Legal Cell), Tirupati **(**NowUnder suspension) violated rules 3(1), 3(2) & 6 of A.P.C.S.Conduct Rules, 1964.

Hence, the charge.

R.P.SISODIA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(LANDS, DM, R&S)

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE – II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATIONS OF MISCONDUCT OR MISBEHAVIOUR IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI M.S.MURALI, FORMER RDO, MADANAPALLI AND PRESENTLY WORKING AS SDC(LEGAL CELL), TIRUPATI (NOWUNDER SUSPENSION)

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Basis of the articles of charges is preliminary enquiry report of the Special Chief Secretary to Government (Lands) Dt.25.07.2024.

In the O/o Sub-Collector, Madanapalli the incident of fire Accident occurred on 21.07.2024 at about 11.30 PM which lead to burning of crucial records/files pertaining to dotted lands, D patta lands and 22A(i) de-notification has taken place. The furniture, the computer systems and about 2440 files were gutted. Since the fire tenders reached within 17 minutes, about 700 files were retrieved immediately and saved from turning to ashes. Rest of the files have to be recreated. That would not be very difficult since these were all current files pertaining to cases related to 22A, assignments made freehold, dotted lands etc. CC cameras were not working since 10 th July. There are 7 CC cameras inside and 3 outside the office. RDO or the A.O. did not bother to get them rectified. This was a major lacuna leading everyone to speculate about the cause of the incident. The fire accident occurred somewhere between 11.00 PM 11.30 PM. Police collected forensic evidence from the spot. Dog squads were deployed but no conclusion could be reached. FSL reports are pending.

Sri Gautam Tej Naidu Gorantla is working as Sr Asst and came to office at 12.30 on 21-7-24 Sunday. Saturday at 11.30 am the RDO, Sri Hari Prasad asked to him do some files since he was about to get transferred. He looks after files pertaining to sec. 22A(i), alienation, making D patta lands freehold, dotted lands, land ceiling and wakf. He has 5 almarahs in the office. 1.5 lakh cash was there in a wooden almarah. One Sri TKN (T Krishmanaidu) gave him this cash for processing some files irregularly. He stated that he had to give this money to RDO. He had seven 22A files under process. These were Nimmanapalli mandal (1 village), Madanpalli (6 villages). All put together 15 acres. These are assigned lands. He dealt with Mr. Madhav Reddy (close follower of Mr Peddireddy Ramchandra Reddy) for one deal for one lakh. One MrTukaram, PA of Mr. P Ramchandra Reddy introduced him to Sri Madhav Reddy. He had bought7 litres of shell engine oil online and kept the cane in office almirah. He stated that he had processed nearly 500 acres of 22A and 13000 acres of D patta free hold files. Murali, ex RDO used to meet Tukaram and Madhav Reddy every week. Mr. Madhav Reddy also gave him one lakh on Saturday. Irregular processing of land files was the norm in the office. For controlling mosquito menace in office, it was a habit of Mr. Gautam to use Mosquito repellent incense Neem sticks to control mosquitos. On Sunday also he has lighted one near his desk.

Several irregularities have been noticed in the processing of files relating to de-notifying lands u/s 22A (1) of the Registration Act.

In Madanpalli sub division, total lands proposed for making freehold was Ac. 79107 By MROs. Collector issued proceeding for Ac.74374. Rejected by Collector is Ac.4732. It appears that MROs have proposed huge extents of lands irregularly for making freehold. These include lands assigned after 2003, lands under dispute, court cases, lands which were alienated by the assignees before POT Act amendment, govt lands etc. hence a

thorough re-verification is required for all lands made freehold. The RDOs of Madanapalli have forwarded lots of irregular proposals to the Collector, the extent and magnitude of which has yet to be ascertained.

PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS:

The following conclusions can be drawn in this preliminary report:

- The electric short circuit is conclusively ruled out as a cause of the incident.
- Prima facie this does not appear to be a handiwork of outsiders.
- Complete dereliction of duty and negligence by all involved is proved from the facts of non-repair of CC cameras, permitting mosquito repellent burn sticks in the office where valuable records are kept, permitting a Sr Asst to keep motor oil in the office etc.
- The combustion intensity of the fire suggests that some chemical agents were used for quick spread of fire.
- Lot of irregularities in processing of land related files in the office. It is very likely that many proposals were irregularly processed pertaining to dotted lands, D patta lands and 22A(i) de-notification.
- Preponderance of probability indicates a deliberate design to burn land related records in order to destroy evidence which can be proved after all the facets of investigation are completed.
- Prima facie this seems to be done by Sri Gautam at the behest of the ex-RDO Murali, Tukaram (PA to Sri P. Ramchandra Reddy and Madhav Reddy (close follower and henchman of Sri P. Ramchandra Reddy.However, this fact needs to be established fully with concrete evidence by the CID.
- The Ex-RDO Sri Murali is guilty of criminal conspiracy, creating false reports and forged signatures, diverting huge amounts of lands under 22A, making D-Patta lands freehold and regularising dotted lands in favour of private persons.
- The present RDO Sri Hari Prasad is guilty of criminal negligence, corruption in land matters and lack of integrity, complete lack of supervision on the subordinates.
- Sri Gautam is guilty of criminal conspiracy and forging and fabricating records.

For the above said reasons, disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against Sri M.S.Murali, former RDO, Madanapalli and presently working as SDC(Legal Cell), Tirupati (NowUnder suspension) criminal conspiracy, for creating false reports and forged signatures, for diverting huge amounts of lands under 22A, making D-Patta lands freehold and regularising dotted lands in favour of private persons

Hence, the Articles of charge.

R.P.SISODIA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(LANDS, DM, R&S)

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE – III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BY WHICH THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI M.S.MURALI, FORMER RDO, MADANAPALLI AND PRESENTLY WORKING AS SDC(LEGAL CELL), TIRUPATI (NOWUNDER SUSPENSION) ARE PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED.

Basis of the Charge:-

1. Preliminary enquiry report of the Spl C.S, Revenue (Lands, DM , R&S) Dept., Preliminary report, dt: 25.07.2024
2. Memo no.REV01-LANA0CCLV(DISC)/58/2024-VIG-I dated 30.07.2024 of the Spl. Chief Secretary to Government (Land, DM, R&S), A.P.

R.P.SISODIA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(LANDS, DM, R&S)

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE – IV

LIST OF WITNESSES BY WHOM THE ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI M.S.MURALI, FORMER RDO, MADANAPALLI AND PRESENTLY WORKING AS SDC(LEGAL CELL), TIRUPATI (NOWUNDER SUSPENSION) ARE PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED.

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1. Sri Ramanayya aged 56, VRA
2. Ms Tapaswini, Deputy Tahsildar
3. Sri V Mani Mudaliyar Mani (CC to RDO)
4. Imran, Junior assistant,
5. Sai Tarun, Junior assistant

R.P.SISODIA
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(LANDS, DM, R&S)

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

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